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| **CHAPTER =**  Jamal called out to Bibi as he chased her, ‘Watch out for landmines!’  Jamal couldn’t believe how far she had kicked the ball.  The ball had stopped near a tank and Jamal caught up to her by walking forward stepping exactly in her footprints, to avoid landmines. At the tank he told her to hurry back home, as their parents would worry if they found her gone. Jamal reminded her to walk back only stepping in her footprints.  The tank was not abandoned but only parked. It started moving. Bibi turned and threw rocks at the tank. |
| **CHAPTER =**  Jamal arrived to find Bibi on the other side of the soccer pitch; Yusuf was kneeling next to her pressing down on her foot as hard as he could. The pressure stopped the mine exploding. Carefully, Jamal slid his foot onto the mine so Bibi could remove hers and the pressure remained the same.  Bibi ran for help but came back, as she didn’t want to leave her brother in such danger. Bibi flung herself at Jamal and they fell over, no explosion, they were safe but not home yet. |
| **CHAPTER =**  Yusuf and Jamal sneaked Bibi back into the village wearing Jamal’s coat and Yusuf’s hat. (Remember girls are not supposed to be outside)  Bibi threw a rock at a passing truck remembering that a truck took her friend’s dad away and he wasn’t seen again.  While sneaking in they were stopped by Mr Nasser who accused them of breaking his window. Trying to distract him from Bibi, Jamal kicked the ball into Mr Nasser’s other window and broke it. Mr Nasser was about to call the police when Jamal’s dad arrived and said that he would pay for the windows. He then quickly took them home. |
| **CHAPTER =**  Jamal and his friends were playing soccer, pretending to be Manchester United versus Newcastle United, outside their village in Afghanistan.  The area still had the scars of war, with wrecked troop carriers, tanks, crashed planes and rocket craters in the ground.  Bibi tried to join the soccer game and we learnt that,   * The government didn’t like people playing soccer * Females had to keep their faces covered at all times outdoors * Girls playing soccer was against the law   If caught the children would be caned and the parents taken away for not controlling their daughter.  However, Bibi was very good at soccer and surprised the boys with her skills. She scored a goal and the ball disappeared over the edge of the rocket crater into the open desert. Bibi chased it. |
| **CHAPTER =**   * Mum’s ancestors were fierce brave desert warriors * Dad’s ancestors were honest hard-working bakers   As Jamal tried to get the ball from under the tank he decided Bibi had inherited all of the desert warrior genes and he the bakers. Suddenly the tank backed away. Jamal watched ‘the tank roar and shudder towards the horizon.’(p15)  As Jamal headed back he heard a scream. Bibi had stepped on a mine. |